DeKalb Monument Camden, South Carolina Kenshaw (* HABS No. 15-8 HABS SC

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District No. 13

Historic American Buildings Survey Samuel Lapham, District Officer 42 Broad Street, Charleston, S.C.

DE KALB MONUMENT DE KALB STREET CAMDEN, SOUTH CAROLINA

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SURVEY NO. 13-8

This monument was designed by Robert Mills in 1825, the corner stone was laid by LaFayette, and the monument completed in 1827.

The monument and shaft are of white marble, on a four tier base of blue granite. The inscriptions are incised, except on the obelisk, where there is cut work, with raised ornaments. All finished marble is tooled about 32 to the inch.

Mills himself describes this work in his "Statistics", as follows:

"In front of the portico of this church, the interesting ceremony or reinterring the remains of baron De Kalb, and laying the corner stone of the monument to be erected to the memory of this patriot and martyr to the cause of liberty, took place, in the presence of the nation's guest, the illustrious La Fayette, on the 9th day of March, 1825; attended by a large concourse of citizens. The scene was peculiarly striking, and interested every one present. The monument erected here is simply elegant in its design. It presents the obelisk form. raised on a pedestal, all of white marble, and resting on a granite base composed of several expanding blocks, in the character of steps, and surrounded by an iron balustrade."

The church mentioned is the Presbyterian Church in Camden.

Source of information: "Statistics of South Carolina" by Robert Mills. Hurlbut and Lloyd. Charleston, S. C., 1826

District Officer #13
Reviewed 1936 by H.C.F.